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16 February 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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CONTENTS

25X1

- 2. Iraq: New regime plans to loosen Iraq's close ties with Soviet bloc. (Page 2)

25X1

- 5. Togo: Military authorities seek to cripple Unity Party. (Page 5)

25X1

- 6. Notes: [REDACTED] Somalia-UK; Brazil. (Page 6)

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/05/16 : CIA-RDP79T00975A006800400001-2

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/05/16 : CIA-RDP79T00975A006800400001-2

Iraq: (The new regime plans to loosen Iraq's close ties with the Soviet bloc.)

(The minister of education reportedly intends to recall all Iraqi students from the "backward countries" of Bulgaria, East Germany, and Romania. Communist and pro-Communist employees in the education and guidance ministries and in the foreign service are to be ousted gradually.)

(Soviet-sponsored projects now under way will be completed, but the regime hopes that assistance will be forthcoming from nonbloc countries so that the bloc's dominance in Iraq's development will be considerably diminished.)

(Moscow is concerned over the repressive measures the new Iraqi government is taking against the Iraqi Communist Party but hopes that good Soviet-Iraqi relations can be established.)

(A Pravda article of 14 February denounced Qasim's suppression of his political adversaries and in cautious terms approved his overthrow, but it expressed concern over the government's "bloody punishment of Communists." The article avoided a judgment of the new government, declaring that only when the "foundations" of Iraqi foreign policy become known can Moscow make a definitive evaluation of the regime.)

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25X1
[Redacted]
Togo: (Togolese military authorities are acting to cripple the only well-organized political party in the country before elections are held.)

(Reports from the interior indicate that the military elements responsible for assassinating President Olympio last month are arresting and in some cases mistreating former parliamentary deputies and local leaders of Olympio's Togolese Unity Party (UT). The UT had been the sole legal party in Togo for a year prior to the coup, and was dominated by the more advanced southern tribal elements. The military are drawn mainly from the north and fear that the UT might regain power in the promised elections.)

(The military leaders are acting independently of the shaky Grunitsky provisional government. Their moves may precipitate the withdrawal of the UT's representative in Grunitsky's coalition and convince UT leaders that their only hope lies in organizing a counter-coup. Some UT elements in Dahomey and Nigeria are already seeking support for such a move.)

(Withdrawal of the UT member would also remove the government's most prominent anti-Ghanaian component.)

NOTES

25X1

Somalia-UK: The Somali Government may soon act against British interests in the country because London rejects Somali claims to territory in Britain's neighboring Kenya colony. The RAF now has over-flight and landing privileges in Somalia, and the BBC maintains an important broadcast relay station there. The Somalis may also make new concessions to the USSR, which gave Somalia \$44 million in credits in 1961 and is now seeking landing rights for Aeroflot's African service.

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Brazil: The government will regard any OAS request that Brazil take measures against subversive activities within its borders as interference in domestic affairs, according to Brazilian press reports of a Foreign Ministry briefing on 14 February. These reports, which the US ambassador in Rio believes reflect the views of the government, harshly criticized the OAS committee which is investigating the extent of Cuban subversion in Latin America.

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